

ANOKA COUNTY LIBRARY  
707 COUNTY RD 10 NE  
BLAINE, MN 55434

**LIBRARY BOARD MINUTES OCTOBER 2022**

The Anoka County Library Board met at the Northtown Library meeting room on October 24, 2022. Present were: Board Members: Backlund, Greensweig, Kost, Lenz and Commissioner West. Absent: Fast, Lawrence and Orpen.

Also, present: Colleen Haubner, Library Director; Jacquie Kramer, Assistant Library Director; Kathryn Timm, Assistant County Attorney; County Commissioners: Look; Braastad; Meisner; Gamache; Reinert; Schulte, Chair; Rhonda Sivarajah, County Administrator; Dee Guthman, Deputy County Administrator; Judy Soule, Supervisor, Systems Administration; Erin Straszewski, Manager Library Community Engagement; Sarah Hawkins, Manager, Library Collections, Dana Weigman, Supervisor, Administrative Services; Ronda Bliss, Administrative Assistant.

Meeting was called to order by Board Vice President Lenz at 5:30 p.m. and a quorum was present.

**ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Backlund	x	
Fast		x
Greensweig	x	
Kost	x	
Lenz	x	
Lawrence		x
Orpen		x
Look	x	
Braastad	x	
West	x	
Meisner	x	
Gamache	x	
Reinert	x	
Schulte	x	

**AGENDA**

On a motion by Kost, second by Greensweig, the Library Board approved the agenda as presented.

**OPEN FORUM**

No members of the public were present.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Greensweig, second by Kost, the consent agenda was approved after a request by Kost to discuss the bills.

September 26, 2022, Library Board Minutes were approved.

Gifts of \$585.74 were accepted  
Bills for the month of September totaling 150,451.48 were paid.

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### **ANOKA COUNTY COMMUNITY IMPACT**

Straszewski presented on the library's impact on the community, focusing on youth and the new Reading Bridge Program taking place at all branches aside from North Central. There are 64 students paired with an adult volunteer throughout the county to practice reading.

#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

Haubner highlighted the various partnerships the library has throughout the community and with Anoka County departments. The Friends of the Anoka County Library partnership is ongoing; they are supporting the Library through pop-up book sales at various branches.

#### **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS 2022**

Haubner reported that the North Central Library is expected to be open in mid-November following a major renovation. Rum River and Mississippi Libraries have planted pollinator gardens through grant funds. Mississippi's exterior was painted and the landscape improved. Northtown's landscape was completed, including some concrete work. Crooked Lake's landscape and book drop were revamped. Projects for 2023 include Johnsville, Crooked Lake – interior and exterior, Saint Francis exterior, and the landscape at Mississippi will be completed.

#### **WILDER RESEARCH COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT**

Haubner reminded everyone to participate in the community needs assessment. The survey will be closing on October 31, 2022. This is a part of the larger Strategic Planning process expected to finish early next year.

#### **CROOKED LAKE LAND AGREEMENT**

Guthman stated that the county is working with a property owner adjacent to the library to sell a piece of land between the library and the property owner's land. This small piece of land will straighten the property line for the neighboring owner.

#### **OPEN DISCUSSION**

Commissioners and Board Members participated in an open discussion.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a roll call vote the meeting was adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronda Bliss  
Administrative Assistant